

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A cosmetic material comprising a crosslinked product of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid and/or a crosslinked product of a poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt having a particle size of 0.1 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  and an average particle size of 1 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 2 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 1, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt is contained in an amount of 0.001 to 20% by mass.

Claim 3 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 1, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid or said crosslinked product of a poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt are produced by exposing at least one solution selected from the group consisting of an aqueous solution, a methyl alcohol solution and an ethyl alcohol solution of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid or the poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt which contain poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid in an amount of 2 to 30% by mass, to radiation for crosslinking thereof.

Claim 4 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 1, wherein said radiation is  $\gamma$ -ray or electron beam.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The cosmetic material according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein said cosmetic material is used as hair cosmetic materials, skin cosmetic materials or nail cosmetic materials .

Claim 6 (Original): A cosmetic material comprising an oiliness agent selected from the group consisting of vegetable oils, higher alcohols or esters thereof, higher fatty esters and liquid paraffins, and a crosslinked product of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid and/or a crosslinked product of a poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt as an oil dispersion modifier.

Claim 7 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 6, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid or said crosslinked product of a poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt has a particle size of 0.1 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  and an average particle size of 1 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 8 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 6, wherein said oiliness agent is contained in an amount of 0.01 to 80% by mass, and said crosslinked product of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt are contained in an amount of 0.1 to 30% by mass.

Claim 9 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 6, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid or said crosslinked product of a poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt are produced by exposing at least one solution selected from the group consisting of an aqueous solution, a methyl alcohol solution and an ethyl alcohol solution of poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid or the poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid salt which contain poly- $\gamma$ -glutamic acid in an amount of 1 to 30% by mass, to radiation for crosslinking thereof.

Claim 10 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 9, wherein said radiation is  $\gamma$ -ray or electron beam.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The cosmetic material according to ~~any of claims 6~~  
~~to 10~~ claim 6, wherein said cosmetic material is used as hair cosmetic materials, skin  
cosmetic materials or nail cosmetic materials.